

# Surf Pines Breeze



**Newsletter of the Surf Pines Association**

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## Recovery in Progress from Disastrous Wind Storm



by Patrick Kelley with photos by Roger Masse and Kay Limbird

Soon after a disastrous wind storm devastated the pines of Surf Pines on Sunday and Monday, December 2-3, 2007, the recovery was in progress. Clatsop County was formally declared by President George W. Bush as an official disaster area. Surf Pines was informally declared by county officials and its residents to be one of the areas in the county that were most devastated by the storm. And the association's board of directors and its membership, some barely waiting for the 100-miles-per-hour winds to slow, went into action to recover from the storm.

The recovery includes these actions:

- Clearing roads and driveways
- Identifying the financial problem
- Assessing the damage
- Investigating assistance from FEMA
- Establishing a philosophy for the recovery
- Reviewing proposals from contractors
- Requesting approval of an assessment
- Selecting a contractor
- Managing the work of the recovery

(Continued on pages 3-5)



## Members Approve \$250 Assessment



By a vote of 146 for "Yes" to 60 for "No," members approved a \$250 assessment to pay for cleanup of storm damage on all of the association's common properties and the right of way after the disastrous wind storm of December 2-3, 2007, and to provide a reserve to pay for cleanup after other storms during this fiscal year. The approved assessment of \$250 per property will be billed on January 1, 2008, and due by January 31, 2008.

Persuasive arguments were made by members for a "Yes" vote. Essentially, a "Yes" vote was a vote for community responsibility for cleanup of storm damage. Persuasive arguments also were made by members for a "No" vote.

(Continued on page 2)



## Members Approve \$250 Assessment (Continued)

Essentially, a “No” vote was a vote for individual responsibility for the cleanup, especially the cleanup of the right of way in front of an individual member’s property. In the vote, the argument for community responsibility prevailed over the argument for individual responsibility.

Although the vote was for either community responsibility or individual responsibility, both forms of responsibility are apparent in Surf Pines now as both the community and its individual members clean up after the storm.



## Quick News

### Plan to Attend the Annual Meeting

The next Annual Meeting of the Surf Pines Association, as announced by Don Kruger, President, is scheduled for Saturday, August 2, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. at the Astoria Golf and Country Club. Mark your new calendar now and plan to attend then.

### Attend Monthly Board Meetings

A recent record of 25 members, a standing-room-only crowd, attended the monthly board meeting last month after the storm. The monthly meetings of the Board of Directors—open to all members of the association—are held on the third Monday of each month at 4:30 p.m. in Surf Pines at the meeting house.

“Comments from the Membership” is always toward the top of the agenda.

On the weekend before a meeting, the agenda is available at the Surf Pines Office and on the Surf Pines web site. After a meeting, the minutes are available on the web at [www.surfpines.org](http://www.surfpines.org).

Attend to business by either attending the meetings or reading the minutes.

### Volunteer for a Committee

Although you do not choose to live in Surf Pines just to volunteer your time, Surf Pines depends on volunteers like you. To volunteer for work on a standing committee, either Security, Roads and Grounds, or Community Relations, contact the committee chairperson. To volunteer for work on an ad hoc committee, either Budget or Nominations, contact, respectively, either the treasurer or the president. (For telephone numbers, addresses, and e-mail addresses, see page 8.)

### Note Procedure to Contact John Gates

Instead of being available in the office during fixed office hours, John Gates, the security/maintenance manager, is available on call. If you need to speak with John, then either call him at 738-0637 or stop by the office whenever the “Open” sign is posted.

To accommodate all members of the association, including weekenders, John is on duty through the weekends. His work days are Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays. He is off duty on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

### Update Your Emergency Contact Information



When, for example, a tree falls on the roof of your home in Surf Pines during a wind storm like the storm of December 2-3, 2007, John Gates must have updated emergency contact information from you available to him in the office so that he can inform you that you have a tree on the roof. If you have not updated your emergency contact information since John became the security/maintenance manager in June of 2007, update it pronto. Stop by the office to update your information in person. Or, if you are away from Surf Pines, call 738-0637 to update your information via telephone.



## Recovery in Progress (Continued)

### *Clearing Roads and Driveways*

During the two days after the storm, December 4-5, members of the board and a host of volunteers from the membership cleared the roads of Surf Pines for two-way traffic. On the third day after the storm, December 6, they cleared driveways that owners had not already cleared. Among the volunteers, Brian Maltman cleared roads and driveways with his forklift. Manning power saws were John Gates, the security/maintenance manager; Don Kruger, the board president; Art Limbird; Dave Lukens, the treasurer; Vince Morrison; Ken Weber, the chairperson of the Roads and Grounds Committee; and Tom Wilcox. Bucking brush and logs off the pavement and onto the right of way were Terry Andrews; Wayne Fleming; George Hawes; Patrick Kelley, the secretary; Kay Limbird; Marsha Morello; Joe Shea; and Judi Stewart. And serving sandwiches and hot coffee to all of the volunteers from the back of an SUV were Kathy Hawes and Robin Rhodes.

### *Identifying the Financial Problem*

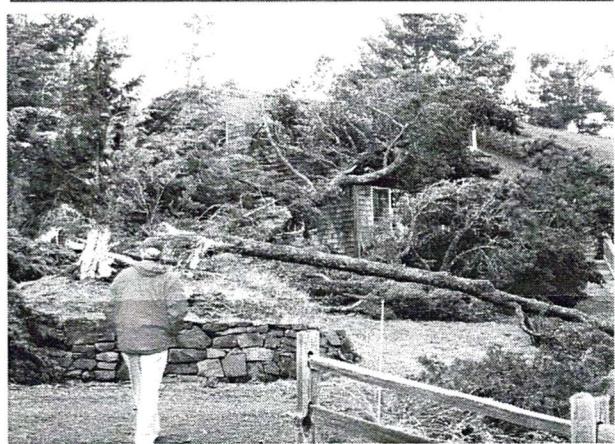
At a special meeting of the board on December 6, Don Kruger identified the financial problem when he asked the other members of the board and attendees how the association should proceed to recover from this devastating storm when the \$20,000 that was budgeted for recovery from storms during the fiscal year already had been spent to recover from a storm in November.

### *Assessing the Damage*

At the special meeting of the board on December 6, the board asked Dave Lukens, who has significant forestry experience, and Ken Weber to assess the damage to trees in numerical terms on a map of Surf Pines. At a subsequent special meeting on December 12, Dave and Ken reported their assessment on a map that showed four levels of damage, coded A through D, with A being minor damage and D being major damage. Viewing the map, the board noted the frequency of D's for major damage.

### *Investigating Assistance from FEMA*

Also at the special meeting of the board on December 6, the board asked Dan Bartlett, the administrator, to investigate the possibility of assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), inasmuch as Clatsop County was declared an official disaster area. At a subsequent special meeting on December 12, Dan reported that assistance for the association from FEMA and state and county agencies was unlikely, except for the possibility of a loan, not a desirable "solution" to the financial problem.





## Recovery in Progress (Continued)



### *Establishing a Philosophy for the Recovery*

At special meetings of the board on December 12 and 15, the board established a philosophy for the recovery.

At the meeting on December 12, the board considered a philosophy that emphasized individual responsibility with the board levying an emergency assessment of \$100, enough to fund removing trees that are hazards and disposing of debris from Surf Pines Lane and all of the association's property, including the property on Manion Drive and the park, but not the right of way, and asking individual members to accept responsibility for removing trees that are hazards and disposing of debris from their individual properties and the right of way in front of their properties.

But at the meeting on December 15, the board reconsidered that philosophy and agreed on a philosophy that emphasized community responsibility with the board proposing an assessment of \$250, enough to fund removing trees that are hazards and disposing of debris from all of the association's property, including the right of way in front of members' properties.

### *Reviewing Proposals from Contractors*

At the special meeting of the board on December 15, the board reviewed proposals from contractors, reviewing on the bases of the contractors' past performance, concept, and price. The board noted that past performance varied from excellent to none, that concept varied from burning debris to chipping and recycling it, and that price varied significantly.

### *Requesting Approval of an Assessment*

At the regular meeting of the board on December 17, the 25 members in the standing-room-only audience were generally supportive of an assessment of \$250 that represents community responsibility for recovery from the storm, especially if the assessment provides for recovery not only for the association's properties but also for the right of way in front of members' properties and if it provides a reserve to fund recovery from the next storm. After the meeting, Don Kruger sent an information letter and a mail ballot for the \$250 assessment to the membership with ballots to be returned no later than December 31.



## Recovery in Progress (Continued)

### Selecting a Contractor

At a special meeting of the board on December 22, the board reviewed additional proposals and selected a contractor, Trails End Recovery, on the bases of price and concept. Regarding price, Trails End Recovery was the lowest bidder. Regarding concept, instead of burning debris, Trails End Recovery chips debris and recycles it, a concept preferred not only by the board but also by members who were present at the regular board meeting on December 17.

### Managing the Work of the Recovery

At the special meeting of the board on December 22, the board established policy and procedures for managing the work of the recovery:

Work on the right of way typically will extend from 10 to 15 feet beyond the edge of the pavement.

The right of way will not be clear-cut.

Trees that are hazards or that were so damaged by the storm that they are unlikely to survive will be removed; trees that are not hazards and that are likely to survive will be spared.

On all roads except for Surf Pines Lane, trees to be removed will be indicated with cut-tree marks because of the historical precedent in the community.

On Surf Pines Lane, trees to be spared will be indicated with leave-tree marks.

Dave Lukens volunteered to manage the marking of trees. Michael Wilkin, the board vice-president, asked Dave to err (if he ever errs) on the side of sparing a tree instead of removing it. Dan Bartlett volunteered to manage the work of locating utilities. And the board agreed that daily active management of the work will be important to achieve a recovery that satisfies the board and the membership.

On December 31, the membership approved the \$250 assessment so that the work of recovery can progress.

Editors' note: Patrick Kelley serves as the corporate secretary of the Surf Pines Association, Roger Masse serves with Patrick as the co-editor of the *Breeze*, and Kay Limbird is an active member of the association.





## Consider Applying for Assistance from FEMA

If you need assistance after the disastrous wind storm that devastated Surf Pines on December 2-3, 2007, consider applying for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Because Clatsop County was declared an official disaster area, disaster assistance is available to individuals.

According to literature from FEMA, the Clatsop County Disaster Recovery Center is open at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center, 451 First Avenue, to assist residents and property owners with storm-related losses. The center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday until further notice. At the center, you can meet with representatives from FEMA, other federal agencies, and state agencies to discuss your situation. Assistance to individuals that is coordinated by FEMA and Oregon Emergency Management can include grants and low-interest loans.

As an alternative to the center in Seaside, you can apply either online at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or by telephone at 1-800-621-FEMA (or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the speech or hearing impaired). Literature from FEMA indicates that you should have the following information at hand: your telephone number, your social security number, your mailing address, the address of your damaged property, a brief description of the damage, and information about your insurance (if you have insurance).



## Welcome Dan Bartlett, the Association's New Administrator

Dan Bartlett recently replaced Bill Barrons as the administrator for the Surf Pines Association. The administrator advises the board of directors; assists the president, the other officers, and the chairpersons of the committees; and performs the administrative tasks that are required for the association to function.

Bill Barrons served as the association's first administrator, serving for seven years. He accepted the position of administrator in 2000, spent seven years creating it, and retired from it in the fall of 2007. Bill was a wise adviser to members of the board of directors, a trusted source of information, and a skillful administrator for the association. He and his wife Barbara retired to Foster City, California, south of San Francisco, to be close to a daughter and grandchildren.

To replace Bill as the association's administrator, the board of directors hired Dan Bartlett on November 1, 2007. Dan brings to the position more than 30 years of experience as a county administrator and city manager. He worked as a county administrator in Benton County, Oregon, for more than 15 years; as the city manager for Milwaukie, Oregon, for more than 10 years; as the city manager for Astoria, Oregon, for 5 years; and, most recently, as the interim city manager for Damascus, Oregon, the state's second newest city. Dan's many accomplishments as a city manager demonstrate his skill as an administrator.

The board of directors welcomes Dan, his experience, and his skill. Please welcome Dan to Surf Pines yourself.

**Dan Bartlett, the new administrator, is passed the baton by Bill Barrons at a "Welcome, Dan/Farewell, Bill" reception. In this case, the baton is a tool for testing whether a new road in Surf Pines meets county standards.**





## **Consider ODF for Information about Trees**

For authoritative information about trees, Dan Bartlett, the association's administrator, suggests considering the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) as a source.

You can check the web site for ODF at [www.oregon.gov/ODF/](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/). Check, for example, the timely information at [www.oregon.gov/ODF/news/NR5763.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/news/NR5763.shtml), a "Newsroom" item titled "Can your tree be saved after a storm?" (The answer to that question is often "Yes.")

## **Surf Pines Social Calendar**

The annual holiday party, which was scheduled for Saturday, December 8, 2007, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the home of Mitchell Proyect and Deborah Wall, 89061 Stellar Lane, was cancelled because of the wind storm on December 2-3. During the week after that disaster, it was not party time in Surf Pines. But as Surf Pines recovers from the storm, it will be party time again.

The Community Relations Committee announces that the party that was cancelled in December 2007 will be rescheduled for the Proyect/Wall home early in 2008, probably during either February to coordinate with St. Valentine's Day or March to coordinate with St. Patrick's Day.

Watch the bulletin boards at the north and south gates for the announcement of a date and time for the rescheduled party. That announcement will be another sign that Surf Pines is recovering from the storm.

## **Social Clubs Meet at the Meeting House**

**by Robin Rhodes**

Surf Pines social clubs are meeting at the meeting house. Anyone for bridge? Crafts, anyone? The coordinators of these clubs will welcome you:

**Bridge Club:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Clarke & Shirley Powers, 738-9296

**Quilt Club:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Colleen Casaleggio, 738-7877

**Yarn Club:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lucia Fleming, 717-0150

**Crafters' Club:** 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Colleen Rockwell, 861-2555

Call the coordinators for more information.

We enjoy meeting in the comfort and convenience of the association's meeting house. Join us there.

Editors' note: Robin Rhodes is a member of the Community Relations Committee.

## **Neacoxie Lake Association Schedules Workshops**

The Neacoxie Lake Association is devoted to saving the lake. The association has scheduled workshops for spring on topics such as "Feed Your Septic System, Not the Lake!" The workshops are scheduled for fourth Saturdays, including April 26, May 24, and June 28, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. at the Pacific Grange Hall. If you live either on the lake or near it (or if you enjoy the lake no matter where you live), then you are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Robin Rhodes at either [robinrds@msn.com](mailto:robinrds@msn.com) or 738-5208.



## For the Record: Drivers Assessed for Speeding

Assessments were levied recently against these drivers for exceeding the posted speed limit on the roads of Surf Pines: Daniella Cepeda, Mark Ghyselinck, Sylvia James, Molly Lowenberg, Melissa Marie Martinez, David Schiele, and Tanya Waddell.

Assessments are based on this schedule of fees currently in use by Oregon courts:

MPH in Excess of Posted Speed	Assessment
1-10	\$97
11-20	\$145
21-30	\$242
Over 30	\$427



According to the association's policy, notice of this action is published in the *Breeze*.

## Surf Pines Association Board of Directors

President	Don Kruger	90128 Manion Dr.	861-3815	dnkruger@msn.com
Vice President	Michael Wilkin	89961 Manion Dr.	861-0701	wilkin@ccalmr.ogi.edu
Treasurer	Dave Lukens	89774 Surf Pines Landing Dr.	717-1284	dluke51@freedomnw.com
Secretary	Patrick Kelley	33251 Pine Ridge Ct.	717-8460	roger_masse@sprynet.com
Director	Bob McWhirter	89997 Surf Pines Landing Dr.	738-5758	bobmcwh@aol.com
Administrator	Dan Bartlett	210 Waldorf Cir. Astoria, OR 97103	791-8060	drbartlet@charter.net

### COMMITTEES

Security	Burr Allegaert	89332 Manion Dr.	738-7717	burr@theoregonshore.com
Roads & Grounds	Ken Weber	89783 Sea Breeze Dr.	738-5986	kkweber@seasurf.net
Community Relations	Norma Keever	89026 Ocean Dr.	738-5069	gnkeeve@msn.com
Park	Ken Weber	89783 Sea Breeze Dr.	738-5986	kkweber@seasurf.net

The Surf Pines Breeze is a quarterly publication of the Surf Pines Association, 33317 Surf Pines Lane, Warrenton, Oregon 97146. Members are invited to contribute articles. Contact Roger Masse or Patrick Kelley at roger\_masse@sprynet.com or at 33251 Pine Ridge Court.